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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: BASSI

Serial No.

).

Filed For

: APPARATUS FOR THE...

Dated

: June 23, 2003

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 4 as follows:

- 4. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein it comprises a member (1) for the pneumatic removal of articles (2) and movable from and toward said platform (30).
- 5. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein it comprises a device (6) for controlling the orientation of the articles, the said device (6) being downstream of said removal member (1).

Please add the following new claims:

6. (New) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein it comprises a member (1) for